MUNDO OBRERO
WORKERS WORLD

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite!
workers.org Vol. 67, No. 37 September 11, 2025

IOF out of Gaza, ICE out of Philly! U.S. hands off Venezuela and Cuba!

Over 100 students and community activists marched from Temple University to the headquarters of war profiteer Day & Zimmermann in Philadelphia on Sep. 6.

Organized by Students for Justice in Palestine Philadelphia Coalition, the march stopped at various locations on Broad Street. Demonstrators explained to pedestrians and motorists they were blocking streets to say no business as usual while the U.S. conducts genocide in Gaza and ICE carries out kidnappings in Philadelphia. Many people responded with honking and raised fists or extended arms to take fliers.

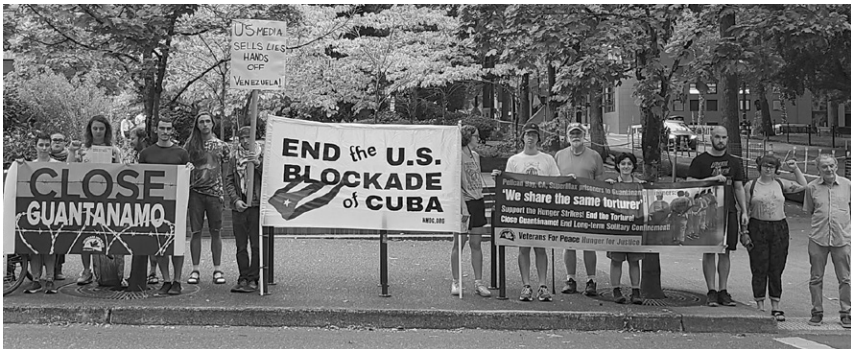
– Report and photo by Joe Piette

WW PHOTO: SARA FLOUNDERS

Solidarity with Venezuela in front of statue of Simón Bolívar, New York City, Sept. 6, 2025.

WW PHOTO: JIM MCMAHAN

Seattle, Sept. 6, 2025. Read online.



WW PHOTO: LYN NEELEY

Anti-imperialist groups protest the U.S. military base in Guantanamo, the blockade of Cuba and recent aggression towards Venezuela. Portland, Oregon, Sept. 3, 2025.

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Vol. 67, No. 37 • September 11, 2025
Closing date: September 10, 2025

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Workers World (ISSN-1070-4205) is published monthly by WW Publishers, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404, New York, NY 10001. Phone: 212.627.2994.
Subscriptions: One year: $36; institutions: $50. Letters to the editor may be condensed and edited. Articles can be freely reprinted, with credit to Workers World, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404, New York, NY 10001. Back issues and individual articles are available on microfilm and/or photocopy from NA Publishing, Inc, P.O. Box 998, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-0998.
A searchable archive is available on the Web at www.workers.org.

A headline digest is available via e-mail subscription. Subscription information is at workers.org.

Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Workers World, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404, New York, NY 10001.

Join us in the fight for socialism!

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it's the only way forward!

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the neverending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, attacks on im/migrants, misogyny, LGBTQIA2S+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth and trans people are gunned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out decades of gains and benefits won by hard-fought struggles by people's movements. The super-rich and their political representatives have intensified their attacks on the multinational, multigender and multigenerational working class. It is time to point the blame at — and challenge — the capitalist system.

WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1959, Workers World Party has been out in the streets defending the workers and oppressed here and worldwide. If you're interested in Marxism, class solidarity, and joining us in the fight for a socialist future, please sign up at **www.workers.org/join-form** and an organizer will get back to you. Or contact a WWP branch near you. □

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To fight martial law plans

Our movement cannot afford to be divided

By Monica Moorehead

The following is based on a talk given by Monica Moorehead, Workers World managing editor and former Workers World Party presidential candidate, for a Sept. 7, 2025, webinar entitled "The wars come home: Troops out of our cities! ICE out of our communities!" sponsored by the United National Antiwar Committee (UNAC).

Other speakers on the webinar included Ajamu Baraka — Director of Black Alliance for Peace's North-South Project and UNAC Administrative Committee; Cristobal Cavazos — Immigrant Solidarity DuPage; and Frank Chapman — Executive Director, National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression. The webinar was chaired by Joe Lombardo, UNAC co-chair. View the entire program at UNAC's YouTube channel. (youtube.com/@unac4073/videos)

Washington, D.C., protest, Sept. 6, 2025.

Let us not be confused or narrowly focused. There are many reasons why President Trump changed the Department of Defense to the Department of War. And it's not just about the wars abroad but wars right here at home, which makes this webinar so timely. I thank UNAC for organizing this discussion. These wars at home and abroad are linked by the same inhumane, rotten, decaying system of imperialism.

Trump first declared open warfare on the entire U.S. working class when he fired tens of thousands of federal workers, a vast majority of them Black women, using Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency, or DOGE. Trump then attacked the Diversity, Equality and Inclusion (DEI) programs, passed under former President Biden, threatening to cut federal funding if these attacks were challenged.

An openly white supremacist in the White House is attempting to sweep away any progressive gains fought and died for by oppressed peoples to win some semblance of democratic rights long denied, beginning with settler colonialism and the theft of Indigenous lands, genocide and violations of sovereignty.

Sending armed troops, the National Guard, along with ICE, to join the police in the streets of Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., Chicago and the many other cities that Trump plans to impose military occupation on, is in preparation for an inevitable working-class rebellion.

The massive raid on the Hyundai plant in Georgia a few days ago, with the arrests of hundreds of mainly South Korean construction workers, should set off alarm bells throughout the entire labor movement, especially throughout the unorganized South where unions have been making some important gains from worker formations like the Southern Workers Assembly.

The white supremacist Trump government, which is widely supported by the bourgeois ruling class, is targeting migrant workers, Black and Brown people and multinational urban cities first because this is about violently imposing white supremacy, including ethnic cleansing from gentrification to incarceration. Trump is targeting places like D.C. and Chicago to rally his demoralized MAGA base. And he's also doing it to weaken the already anemic pro-war Democratic Party to steal the 2026 elections.

White supremacy hurts all workers

However, fundamentally, we can only understand what is happening if we see it within the context of the deepening capitalist economic crisis, the decline of U.S. imperialist global hegemony, and the coming intensification of class struggle. The ruling class is scared, desperate and preparing to fight for the survival of their dying system. So they

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To fight martial law plans

Our movement cannot afford to be divided

Continued from previous page

are preparing to crush the resistance and the rebellions whether in the form of protests, strikes or other forms of militant struggle.

Labor unions and other worker formations must know this, understand this and prepare to defend their right to wage class struggle. There are reasons why they [the capitalists] come for the most oppressed first, and then they target the entire working class.

When unemployment starts rising as it already has, and cuts to every basic need of the workers from health care to education to housing to food start really kicking in, the workers have no other choice but to fight back, and this is what the ruling class is losing sleep over and what Trump's Department of War is preparing for.

Deploying troops city by city is very calculated and very strategic. A major part of the strategy is to get us and the rest of society, including the political establishment, used to seeing troops in the streets. This is so when the time comes to crush resistance, by declaring martial law, it won't be a shock. Moreover, the military and the police will have had the time to create the infrastructure necessary for the imposition of martial law.

Communities of color are no strangers to this kind of occupation and terror traced back to the days of "slave catchers" hunting down escaped enslaved African people. This was followed by the post-slavery Black Codes when Black people were arrested and incarcerated for minor infractions, laying the basis for fascist terror imposed on the Southern Black masses following the defeat of radical Reconstruction.

Many of us remember when the National Guard was deployed to urban cities like Detroit, Newark and Los Angeles during the 1960s to suppress rebellions sparked by police brutality and fueled by the same inhumane conditions as today, but those conditions have expanded classwide.

Forces in Los Angeles and D.C. have been uniting against ICE, the police and the National Guard and now in Chicago, and our movement must extend solidarity to all who are under immediate siege by these fascist tactics. Just yesterday, Sept. 6, there was a huge anti-Trump march of thousands in D.C. demanding to "Free D.C." from this repression.

Classwide unity is key

In light of this unprecedented crisis, we can't afford for our movement to be divided and to act only in the interest of our individual organizations. This is a recipe for disaster. A forward-thinking, working-class perspective is what's needed for our class to become the gravediggers of capitalism, predicted almost 180 years ago in The Communist Manifesto.

We must take a page from the heroic Palestinian Resistance, made up of both secular and non-secular factions, that has built a strong united front with a common goal — to liberate their ancestral lands and to win sovereignty from imperialism and its partner in war crimes, Zionism. And this 77-year-old resistance against genocide and ethnic cleansing, especially since Oct. 7, 2023, has inspired a higher level of resistance to imperialism throughout the Global South and Global North.

Our strategy — a strategy which will require a level of unity, urgency and political analysis that we don't yet have but must organize to get — is that the struggle to stop martial law and the deployment of troops at home and abroad is a class struggle. This means the working class has to be central in this struggle — not peripheral or an afterthought. How can this be done? If we comprehend this, and we have the will to do it, then we will find the strategy and tactics that will make it possible.

Long live internationalism! ☐

Residents protest plans to deploy National Guard to Washington, D.C., Aug. 12, 2025.

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A killing machine, by any name

The Trump regime can never be expected to do something positive for the laboring people of the United States, let alone of the rest of the world. But sometimes, by error, this racist, misogynist and warmongering crew in office now does something that cuts both ways.

Such was its decision to rename the "Department of Defense" back to the "Department of War," as it was called until 1949. Secretary of War Pete Hegseth says the name change will toughen the Pentagon. So does Trump. They claim the name change will counter "woke" policies.

Remember that Hegseth has two main qualifications for his post as War Secretary: He helped free convicted U.S. special troops who had been convicted of war crimes in Iraq and Afghanistan, one of whose own special-troop buddies testified against him. He fawns allegiance to Trump.

During the more than 75 years of the Department of Defense, the U.S. started dozens of wars. This was under both Democratic and Republican administrations. The U.S. Armed Forces roamed the planet invading and bombing countries and killing many millions of people — in Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan and Iraq, for example, unimpeded by the softer name, Department of Defense.

It's true, as Trump has said, that the U.S. has won no wars outright since World War II, but not from holding back on killing.

The renaming simply eliminates the lie that the U.S. killing machine defends all the people of the U.S. and that all U.S. wars are defensive wars. This lie aims to deceive the U.S. population. Most of the world is not deceived.

By calling the Pentagon the Department of War instead of the Department of Defense, the Trump crew helps clarify the Pentagon's real purpose.

The Department of War wages aggressive wars to protect and expand the private property, wealth and profits of a tiny group of extremely rich capitalists and bankers who make up the imperialist ruling class. These superrich people count on the U.S. military to help them exploit the labor of billions of workers and farmers worldwide and pillage the natural resources of the Earth.

When workers and oppressed peoples struggle to increase their earnings or nations struggle for sovereignty over the land they live in, the Department of War kills them. It represses these struggles. Hundreds of thousands of U.S. troops also died or were wounded in wars the U.S. started.

The Department of War also provides profits for the military-industrial complex. That is, it guarantees profits to capitalists who own weapons corporations. This year the budget for the Department of War alone is more than $1 trillion — a new record, all taken from taxes that mainly workers pay. The budget's increase, taken with bipartisan support in Congress, is transferred to the already superrich. Last year's increase could easily fund the services cut from health care and education.

No workers from the U.S. should risk their own lives or kill other people to serve the interests of this filthy rich ruling class. Not in West Asia, the South China Sea, Korea or Eastern Europe. Or in Africa. Or in the Caribbean against the Venezuelans. Or in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles or Chicago against migrants, Black people and other workers.

Whether MAGA or old-school Republicans or Democrats are in charge, the working class needs to resist the Department of War. The troops inside the military should resist the illegal orders from the White House.

Let's take the name change a step further and make the "Department of W.A.R." stand for the "Department of Weapons' profits, Aggression and Repression." And let anyone shocked by the name change absorb the lesson of what the U.S. Armed Forces really are: instruments of aggression and repression to gain superprofits for a tiny few unspeakably wealthy rulers. ☐

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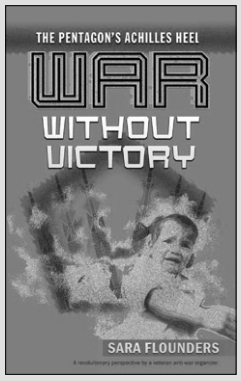

WAR WITHOUT VICTORY

by Sara Flounders

"By revealing the underbelly of the empire, Flounders sheds insight on how to stand up to the imperialist war machine and, in so doing, save ourselves and humanity."

– Miguel d'Escoto Brockmann,
President, U.N. General Assembly, 2008-2009;
Foreign Minister, Nicaragua's Sandinista government.

Free PDF available at *www.workers.org/books*.

workers.org

Por qué los gobernantes occidentales evitan el desfile de la Segunda Guerra Mundial en Asia

Desfile en Beijing para conmemorar el 80 aniversario del fin de la Segunda Guerra Mundial, 3 de septiembre de 2025.

Los imperialistas la «poseyeron». La perdieron. Pensaron que la recuperaban. La perdieron de nuevo.

Como clase, los superricos occidentales de hoy saben que sus antepasados de clase controlaron y saquearon hasta la década de 1930 toda Asia Oriental y explotaron a sus cientos de millones de trabajadores y campesinos. Su dominio colonial mató de hambre, golpeó y engañó a la gente que encontraron viviendo en Asia, pero los colonialistas censuraron esa parte de la historia.

El imperialismo japonés, que se desarrolló después del europeo, se apoderó de la península coreana en 1905. Más tarde emprendió la guerra con el objetivo de conquistar China y sustituir a los colonialistas occidentales en otros lugares.

El ejército japonés llevó a cabo masacres contra la población civil local. También sustituyó al dominio holandés de Indonesia, al francés de Indochina, al británico de Birmania y Malasia y expulsó a los demás imperialistas de gran parte de China. El colonialismo japonés continuó la brutalidad contra los pueblos coloniales, como pueden atestiguar los países asiáticos que celebran el desfile en Pekín este 3 de septiembre.

El hecho de que Estados Unidos también librara una guerra contra Japón entre 1941 y 1945 no se debió ni al amor de la clase dirigente estadounidense por la democracia ni a su odio por la dictadura militar japonesa. La Segunda Guerra Mundial en el Pacífico fue una batalla entre estas dos potencias imperialistas rivales por controlar y saquear Asia y el Pacífico. Además de los soldados obreros y campesinos que murieron, esta guerra costó la vida a decenas de millones de civiles en Asia, incluido Japón.

La ocupación japonesa de Asia despertó una poderosa resistencia en los países recién conquistados. Los movimientos nacionales de resistencia -especialmente allí donde los dirigían partidos comunistas- libraron heroicas y eficaces guerras de guerrillas contra el ejército japonés. Estos movimientos hicieron grandes contribuciones a la derrota del militarismo japonés.

La cobertura mediática de los actos del 80 aniversario minimizará esta contribución de los pueblos asiáticos y de los partidos comunistas. Al igual que en las conmemoraciones de la guerra en Europa, donde se minimizan los grandes sacrificios de la Unión Soviética para lograr la derrota de la Alemania nazi, también se distorsionan los hechos relativos al teatro asiático de la Segunda Guerra Mundial.

La guerra entre los imperialistas por la hegemonía, aunque creó estragos y sufrimiento para cientos de millones de personas, debilitó el dominio imperialista. Esto, a su vez, hizo más probable la liberación de los pueblos colonizados. Aunque las potencias imperialistas intentaron reconquistar a los pueblos que habían saqueado anteriormente, estas intervenciones fracasaron a menudo.

Es cierto que las intervenciones británicas, estadounidenses y francesas masacraron a la población local y en algunos lugares impidieron que se produjera la liberación. Sin embargo, los movimientos dirigidos por comunistas consiguieron liberar China, gran parte de Indochina y parte de Corea, a pesar de los continuos crímenes de guerra imperialistas en estas zonas. Las tropas estadounidenses permanecieron durante décadas en Tailandia y Vietnam y siguen en Japón y Corea del Sur y de nuevo en Filipinas.

Tras la disolución de la Unión Soviética en 1991 y cuando China se abrió al mercado mundial controlado por los imperialistas, los estrategas de éstos dijeron que la historia había terminado. Probablemente esperaban que Asia Oriental volviera a caer bajo el control imperialista occidental, quizás esta vez en alianza con Tokio. Se sintieron decepcionados.

China, todavía con un objetivo socialista y mantenida por un Partido Comunista y una milicia popular fuertes, ha demostrado ser un polo económico y diplomático opuesto a la cábala imperialista estadounidense, europea occidental y japonesa que ha dominado el resto del mundo. Una reunión internacional en Tianjin que acaba de terminar mostró cómo la ahora poderosa economía china ofrece una alternativa a la actual dominación imperialista del mercado mundial.

El desfile de celebración en Pekín demuestra aún más el declive imperialista. También reaviva la lección de que la guerra imperialista puede convertirse en una guerra por la liberación de los pueblos y la victoria de la clase obrera. Por eso los imperialistas son tan hostiles al desfile. □

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